

Basic Reed Adjustment 1

Bridle

This document will outline a few basic adjustments that can be made using the bridle so as to make the reed easier or harder to play depending on your needs.

Problem	Cause	Remedy	Effect On Reed
Reed too strong	Mouth too wide	Close mouth	Lowers playing pressure and sharpens the pitch of the reed. The reed may need to be raised in the chanter. Add hemp
Reed too flat	Mouth too wide	Close mouth	As above
Reed too weak	Mouth too small	Open mouth	Increases playing pressure and flattens the pitch of the reed. The reed may need to be sunk further into the reed seat. Remove a small amount of hemp.
Reed too sharp	Mouth too small	Open mouth	As above
Weak sound	Mouth too small	Open mouth	As above
Reed stops	Mouth too small	Open mouth	As above

